

It is reported by the Inspector-General of Education that of the non-recurring charges, an expenditure of Rs. 13,460 has already been incurred and that the balance of Rs. 19,040 only which has to be incurred during the current year will be met from the accumulated Cess Funds.

2. The Government are pleased to sanction the foregoing proposals for utilisation of the cess in the Bangalore District. As against the estimated income of Rs. 90,000 per annum from the cess in this district, the above sanctions amount to Rs. 62,998 per annum leaving a balance of Rs. 27,002 for further developments. In regard to the utilisation of this balance, Government consider that 10 per cent of the total amount of cess or Rs. 9,000 may be kept as a margin for non-recurring expenditure each year and the remaining sum of Rs. 18,000 only spent on developments involving recurring cost. The Inspector-General of Education is accordingly requested to submit further proposals limiting the recurring cost involved therein to Rs. 18,000.

3. The proposals of the Inspector-General of Education for the utilisation of the accumulated savings under the Education Cess Funds of the Bangalore District are also awaited.

K. MATTHAN,

Chief Secretary to Government.

School Buildings.

ORDER No. E. 4106-10—EDN. 48-23-25, DATED 1ST MARCH 1924.

The question of defining the powers and responsibilities of the Public Works and Education Departments in the matter of construction, improvement, maintenance and repairs of educational buildings has been under the consideration of Government from some time past. Under the existing orders, generally, all major repairs of educational buildings costing more than Rs. 500 and all original works costing more than Rs. 1,500 are carried out by the Public Works Department in consultation with the Inspector-General of Education, while original and repair works below these limits are executed by the Education Department. In a few urgent cases, however, the Education Department has in the past undertaken the construction of school buildings exceeding the limit of Rs. 1,500. The entire provision which is made in the budget of the Public Works Department for educational works is utilised for the construction of original works at District and Taluk Headquarters costing more than Rs. 1,500. The allotments in the Education Budget are primarily intended for Village Elementary School buildings and for the construction of other small buildings wherever necessary and for carrying out improvements and alterations to existing buildings. Works undertaken out of these allotments and exceeding Rs. 1,500 in value are entrusted to the Public Works Department for execution and the necessary funds therefor placed at their disposal.

2. The Government observe that the existing procedure has resulted in a certain amount of confusion and want of definition in regard to the responsibilities of the two departments in the matter of construction and maintenance of educational buildings. They consider that in the interests of prompt execution of the programme of educational buildings, the duties of the two departments should be clearly defined and each department held responsible for a particular class of work. They are accordingly pleased to lay down the following procedure for adoption in future :—

(i) The Education Department will execute (a) annual repairs of all school buildings and petty construction of all classes of buildings up to a limit of Rs. 500 and (b) all original works provided for in the budget programme costing up to Rs. 5,000.

(ii) All other works original as well as repairs will be carried out by the Public Works Department.

(iii) In regard to the works to be undertaken by the Education Department the Inspector-General of Education may sanction the estimates not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

(v) Provision will be made in the Budgets of the Education and Public Works Departments for the works carried out by the respective departments. For such of the works as may be specially transferred to the Public Works Department for execution, necessary funds will be placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department by the Education Department.

3. As under the foregoing orders, the Education Department will be responsible for the execution of a heavy building programme, the Government consider that the existing executive Public Works staff of the Department comprising an Overseer at the Head Office and two Sub-Overseers in the two Circles will not be able to cope with the work and that the staff should be suitably strengthened so as to enable the Department to work out the entire grants in a satisfactory manner. They accordingly direct that the Inspector-General of Education be given the services of a special Engineering Assistant of the rank of a Sub-Engineer from the Public Works Department and that each of the Circle Inspectors be given the services of an Overseer, the present Overseer attached to the Inspector-General's office being transferred to one of the Circles. The number of Sub-Overseers will also be temporarily raised to six, of whom two will be on Rs. 45 plus Rs. 15 and the rest on Rs. 40 plus 15 per mensem. The additional establishment herein sanctioned will be temporary for one year and the cost of the same will be met from the grants in the Education Budget for buildings. The staff revised as above at an extra cost of Rs. 1,146 per mensem is shown in the appended statement.

4. The Inspector-General of Education and the Chief Engineer will be responsible for the preparation of suitable programmes of building works to be executed in the respective departments before the commencement of each year and to see that the programmes are given effect to as far as funds permit.

5. The Chief Engineer is requested to place at the disposal of the Inspector-General of Education forthwith the services of a Sub-Engineer and an Overseer from the Public Works Department.

K. MATTHAN,

Chief Secretary to Government.